News Release





U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Town of Chatham, Mass. For immediate release – June 9, 2015

For further information contact:

Libby Herland, USFWS, 978-443-4661 x11 (Office), 978-460-4731 (Cell) or <u>Libby Herland@fws.gov</u> and Jill Goldsmith, Chatham Town Manager, 508-945-5105 or jgoldsmith@chatham-ma.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Town of Chatham agree to administrative boundary between the Monomoy Islands and Nauset/South Beach

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Town of Chatham, Massachusetts, have agreed to an administrative boundary between their respective lands in the dynamic area between the Monomoy Islands and Nauset/South Beach. Today, the Town of Chatham Selectboard approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Town and the Service and that document will now be signed by both parties.

The MOU and an associated map describe how the administrative boundary will be interpreted and managed jointly by the Service and Town in an area where shifting sands and a dynamic barrier beach system are constantly changing. Lands to the east of the boundary will be managed by Town regulations and lands to the west of the boundary will be managed by Service regulations.

The Service plans to include the MOU and map in the final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, due to be released later this summer. While the MOU does not describe the specific management actions at Nauset/South Beach, it does pave the way for the Service and Town to work together to manage these lands for the benefit of people and wildlife.